

REMARKS

Claims 1-18, 20, 21, 23, 25-32, 54--56. 58, 60, 62, 75, 77, 79, 81, 89-101, 108-111, 115, 117, 121-125, 130-133, 135-139, 144, 146, 151-154, 158-163, and 165-173 are pending. Claims 19, 22, 24, 33-53, 57, 59, 61, 63-74, 76, 78, 80, 82-88, 102-107, 112-114, 116, 118-120, 126-129, 134, 140-143, 145, 147-150, 155-157, and 164 are herein cancelled without prejudice for the purpose of making the application special. Applicants fully reserve a right to pursue the cancelled claims in continuation applications of the present application. Claims 2-4, 20, 23, 25, 26, 29, 32, 58, 60, 62, 77, 79, 81, 89, 92, 95, 96, 99, 101, 110, 112, 115, 117, 125, 134, 136, 138, 144, 146, 154, 158, 166 and 167 are herein amended. New claims 168-173 are herein added. No new matter has been introduced.

As a result of the amendments herein, Applicants believe that all claims are directed to a single invention for the purpose of a petition to make the application special.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: September 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By  _____

Charles E. Miller

Registration No.: 24,576

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &
OSHINSKY LLP

1177 Avenue of the Americas
41st Floor

New York, New York 10036-2714
(212) 835-1400

Attorney for Applicants